

THURSDAY EVENING, MAY 25, 1881.

It was developed at the examination of Mr. Carmichael yesterday that a postal card addressed to Senator Vance, and that it allowed the freedom of the mails granted other cards would probably have been read by no one but that Senator, was stopped in the postoffice in Washington, never delivered to the gentleman to whom it was addressed, and what was written upon it published broadcast to the world. General Mahone made no complaint, and Senator Vance has never seen the card, but a postoffice clerk, who read a postal message not addressed to himself, detained it failed to deliver it to the gentleman to whom it was sent, caused what was inscribed upon it to be known to the whole reading public, and then made complaint against the writer. Are such proceedings in accordance with the instructions of the Postmaster General?

and by others ascribed to the boat striking on a snag, caused the crowd out of curiosity to rush to one side, and as the side of the boat sank with the additional weight a volume of water a foot or two in depth poured in upon the lower deck, which was crowded with passengers. Instantly the crowd on both decks rushed to the opposite side, and the result, as might be expected, with that of the water shipped to the boat, caused a lurch in the opposite direction. Then it was that the disaster occurred. The side of the boat sank in the water to the depth of one or two feet, and while the crowd on the lower deck were struggling to save themselves from slipping down into the river, the stanchions supporting the upper decks suddenly gave way, and the whole structure, with its load of human beings, came down on those who were below, crushing them on the deck and rendering escape impossible. The scene that followed cannot be described. The boats continued to settle on a side by side, deeper into the water, and the majority of the passengers who were stunned by the fall from the upper deck, and were, therefore, unable to help themselves, soaked sank into the water without consciousness of their fate.

The session of the Manassas Presbyterian church submit the following statement in response to the slanderous charges circulated concerning their pastor. Every responsible minister must admit that he can never completely be free from temptation to bring over to his side those whose families and friends are emotionally in intimate association with their minister, or whose children are reared under his influence; and we repel with indignation the insinuation of the Manassas Gazette that there are and other persons more jealous of the honor of our church, and more anxious to protect the virtue of its members, than we ourselves. It is our duty to render our pastor the financial and moral support which is his due, and we feel ourselves abundantly capable of assuming the responsibility of deciding whether our relation shall continue or cease. We regarded it necessary for our church and community, that our investigation should be prompt, thorough and searching. It was conducted with doors open to the public, many of whom availed themselves of the opportunity to attend. We were for all the witnesses which the prosecutor sought who sympathized with him could suggest, and gave to all who came a patient hearing. We believe the public will, after a full understanding of the case, reach the same conclusion we have done. Mr. Todd has served our church acceptably for four years, during which it increased in numbers and influence. Before and during his administration differences have arisen among our members, a partial explanation of which, we regret to say, will be necessary to fully make clear the matter under consideration. Mr. Todd and his accomplished wife have labored earnestly, "in season and out of season," to reconcile these differences and promote unity and harmony. Both are known by all who know anything of them, to be social and to have taken special pains to encourage social intercourse among the members of the church and community. Mr. Todd has never hesitated to treat the ladies he has met in society with the courteousness that all gentlemen show. It is not improbable that during his stay here he may have walked or rode out with some of the ladies of his congregation. This fact ought to relieve him from the charge of giving to any particular lady the attention of a lover. Mr. Todd's relations with the family of Mr. Trimmer have perhaps been more intimate than with any other. His sister confided in him, and Mr. Trimmer an elderly gentleman, one of the oldest and most influential members of the city resided near Mr. Todd's than any other family of the church. His house stands on Main street, about one half way from the minister's house to the church. In passing to and from home, Mrs. or any public gathering, Mr. Trimmer would hear portions usually and frequently and mostly the pastor or his family. The young lady had, sometimes, more home than any other lady in the church, and employed us to arrange the details of the fair, events in which supports. As Miss Trimmer has always been very sociable, she could not be expected to do so without being well protected against any offense. Miss Trimmer also among those who have been favored and have joined the church during Mr. Todd's ministrations, and he has doubtless felt a paternal interest in her so that we see why. We have said above, that Mr. and Mrs. Todd were active in their endeavor to promote unity and harmony in the church. In one notable instance their efforts were a partial failure. Differences had existed in the church long before Mr. Todd's ministrations, as to who should control the organ and the choir. The merits of this controversy, which was continually breaking out afresh during Mr. Todd's term of service, it is unnecessary for us to state. We mention it as a *fact* important in its bearings upon the subject under examination. Among those who took a prominent part in this controversy were Mr. R. W. Merchaut and his wife. During a portion of the history of the church Mr. Merchaut sang to the choir and Mrs. Merchaut presided at the organ, and they have filled several on various occasions at certain churches which were made to the attraction of the church music, and since November last have ceased to attend the regular services of the church, and in a variety of ways shown special hostility to the pastor. If true, therefore, farther it will be no wonder if Mr. Todd, as Mr. Todd is a leading member of the Good Templars' Lodge of this place, and had organized a movement for the suppression of the sale of liquors on Sunday, and for raising the liquor licenses, with a view to limit the trade as much as possible. About that time a more serious cause had originated that Mr. Todd was an intemperate man himself. A few days were developed, which after the usual exaggeration, seemed to sustain the rumor. The facts we found on examination were as follows: Mr. Todd, as his intimate friend has known for a long time, has been troubled with occasional and severe attacks of "cerebral prostration." He has been accustomed to keep medicines in his house for this trouble, and has been advised by physicians to take "lager beer." Those who were now disposed to prosecute Mr. Todd on the ground of intemperance, have been able to establish the fact, that on two or three occasions he has taken a glass of beer when away from home, and without his usual medicine; that on one occasion he purchased a bottle of Rognon's country store for a sick post-hooper; and on two other occasions, for camphor and honey medicinal; and also that while suffering from severe injury, he asked a friend for a glass of home-made wine; and that one season when the water at his house was very poor he had used "sweet" cider. The above is all that careful and concerted espionage has been able to establish during his four year's residence among us. Out of this, and this alone, has grown the rumors put forth in this community by recent converts to temperance and morality.

For some time past the ladies of the church have been accumulating funds for the purchase of a church edifice. One number of the members of the Society had been voting against this fund, in purchasing a new organ which had been placed in the church by its agent of the "Betty" Organ Co. Some opposed this as misappropriation of the fund. Mrs. Trimmer and her daughter Kate, taking a strong stand with others, against the "Betsy" and in favor of the "*Betty*" organ. On Wednesday, April 13th, the ladies of the Society met at the Church, to decide how the money should be appropriated, but no decision was reached, as the Society was called to meet again on Wednesday, April 20th. In the meantime it was evident that considerable hatred had been developed over the matter—Miss Trimmer being active in urging her views and soliciting others to support them. We have it well established by testimony of witnesses entirely outside of Mr. Todd's and Mrs. Trimmer's families, that on Sunday, April 17th, Mrs. Todd expressed herself as fearful that the controversy would eventuate in another Church quarrel, and that she must get Mr. Todd to see Kate and get her to promise not to be obstinate over the matter at the meeting on Wednesday. Mr. Todd did not return from his appointment at Hartford until Monday night, April 18th. On Tuesday night, April 19th, both parties were at the Good Templars' Lodge, and he (Mr. Todd) determined to speak with Miss Trimmer upon the subject; in question, while walking home to the Society was to meet the next day, and none of the ladies were expected to be present. We thought however, it was natural that she should improve this opportunity. He went into the parlour at the close of the meeting, to get his overcoat; while putting it on he saw Miss Trimmer and another lady pass out, and as soon as he was ready he started out to overtake them. It so happened that Miss Trimmer went in the opposite direction a few steps to accompany her friend, and as it was very dark Mr. Todd followed

3d. Mr. Gaines' opening statement before the Session is not worthy of credence. He says he took his pitcher to go to the spring and get water. Those who occupy the house with him state that he was not in the house from 7 to 9 o'clock p. m., and that he had no water in his pitcher the next morning. It seems probable to us, that Mr. Gaines, excited by his own jealous feelings, and the taunts of others, had been for some time watching for something wrong, and the pitcher story was brought in to explain his presence and to relieve him from the suspicion of being an eavesdropper.

4th. Mr. Gaines said before the Session, "I saw Mr. Todd come down the street and secreted himself around the corner of Mr. Trimmer's fence." After Miss Trimmer had passed inside the gate and had, as he said, cleared her throat for a signal he made immediately, "I had forgotten the signal," he said she made the signal that he had agreed upon, and he followed her to the door. Mr. Todd had seen her make the signal, and he followed her to the door, and he immediately arrested her, &c., &c. Now, we cannot believe such a flimsy statement.

beyond Mr. Arrington's O'Connor examination by Mr. Toid he said, "It was so dark that I could not see who the lady was that was with you. You were sitting very close together and had the fire, in one hand, I didn't see the other arm but from the way you were sitting I supposed you had the other arm around her, I did not notice anybody else."

pose to be "court and jury too," and he didn't promise to be proved by a number of witnesses. During the next week he endeavored to obtain an interview with Miss Trimmer at the home of Mr. Thomas Houchers. Failing in this, and coming under the influence of Mr. Todd's enemies, he began for the first time, as far as known to us, to declare his belief of any criminal intention on Miss Trimmer's part.

on the inflamed parts, allaying irritation, giving relief in **Asthma, Bronchitis, Coughs, Catarrh, and the Throat Troubles** which **Singers and Public speakers** are subject to. For thirty years Brown's Bronchial Troches have been recommended by physicians, and always give perfect satisfaction. Having been tested by wide and constant use for nearly